

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1-23 (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) A method for using the dispenser of ~~claim 37~~
claim 47, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) disposing the capillaries, in substantially parallel alignment and at separations less than ~~their~~ than the capillary diameters, on an endless adhesive tape extending substantially perpendicular to longitudinal axes of the capillaries to hold the capillaries at a portion of their outer surface; and
- b) introducing, following step a), the capillaries and tape into said introductory location of said slotted guide.

25. (previously presented) The use of claim 24, wherein the adhesive tape is coated with a contact adhesive.

26. (previously presented) The use of claim 24, wherein the adhesive tape is a sheet.

27. (currently amended) The use of claim 24, wherein ~~said width the~~
width of the adhesive tape corresponds approximately to a third of said length of the capillaries.

28. (previously presented) The use of claim 24, wherein the capillaries abut one another.

29. (previously presented) The use of claim 24, wherein a central longitudinal region of the capillaries is disposed on the adhesive tape with the capillaries projecting past the adhesive tape on both sides thereof.
30. (previously presented) The use of claim 24, wherein at least two adhesive tapes are provided at a separation from one another with ends of the capillaries projecting past outer edges of the at least two adhesive tapes.
31. (previously presented) The use of claim 24, wherein the capillaries are wound, together with the adhesive tape, about an axle and into a roll.
32. (previously presented) The use of claim 24, wherein at least one end of the adhesive tape comprises an adhesive-free removal tab.
33. (previously presented) The use of claim 24, wherein the adhesive tape is provided with at least one of a label and an imprint for identifying the capillaries.
34. (previously presented) The use of claim 24, wherein the capillaries have a storage capacity which is less than 500µl.
35. (previously presented) The use of claim 34, wherein said storage capacity of the capillaries is less than 100µl.

36. (previously presented) The use of claim 35, wherein said storage capacity of the capillaries is less than 1 μ l.

37. (cancelled)

38. (cancelled)

39. (cancelled)

40. (currently amended) The dispenser of ~~claim 37~~ claim 47, further comprising a slider cooperating with said slotted guide elongated receptacle to resiliently urge the capillaries in a direction towards said towards a dispensing location.

41. (currently amended) The dispenser of claim 40, further comprising means, disposed at an end of said U-shaped elongated receptacle facing away from said dispensing location, cooperating with said slider to arrest said slider for loading the capillaries into said slotted guide elongated receptacle.

42. (currently amended) The dispenser of claim 40, wherein said bottom part of said U-shaped receptacle defines a longitudinal slot, wherein said slider comprises a guiding pin disposed in said longitudinal slot, a helical spring borne on said guiding pin, and a carriage cooperating with said guiding pin and said helical spring.

43. (currently amended) The dispenser of ~~claim 37~~ claim 47, further comprising means for winding and unwinding the capillaries with

the adhesive tape about an axle, said winding and unwinding means having a helical spring acting on said axle, for loading into said slotted guide receptacle.

44. (currently amended) The dispenser of ~~claim 37~~ claim 47, wherein said dispensing location is structured for removal of the capillaries from the dispenser in axial directions thereof.
45. (currently amended) The dispenser of ~~claim 44~~ claim 40, wherein said dispensing location has at least one discharge opening which is disposed at a level of the capillaries and which penetrates through at least one of said ~~U-shaped legs of said U-shaped receptacle~~ first side wall and said second side wall.
46. (previously presented) The dispenser of claim 45, wherein a diameter of said discharge opening corresponds approximately to a diameter of the capillaries.
47. (new) A dispenser for a plurality of individual capillaries, each capillary having a capillary length and a capillary outer diameter, the plurality of capillaries bonded to an adhesive tape to be substantially parallel to each other, the capillaries disposed transverse to a longitudinal extension of the adhesive tape and projecting past the tape at both ends of the capillaries, the dispenser comprising:

a bottom;

a first side wall cooperating with said bottom;

a second side wall cooperating with said bottom and extending substantially parallel to and at a first separation from said first side wall, said first separation being larger than said capillary length; and

a top cooperating with said first and said second side walls and extending substantially parallel to and at a second separation from said bottom, said second separation being greater than said capillary outer diameter, said top having an elongated opening with a width greater than the width of the adhesive tape, wherein said first side wall, said second side wall, and said top are structured, dimensioned and disposed to define an elongated receptacle into which the capillaries can be inserted while in contact with the adhesive tape, wherein the adhesive tape can then be separated from the capillaries by removal through said elongated opening in said top.

48. (new) The dispenser of claim 47, wherein said elongated opening extends along a central portion of said elongated receptacle.
49. (new) The dispenser of claim 47, wherein said elongated opening consists essentially of a first opening strip and a second opening strip extending substantially parallel to and at a separation from said first opening strip, wherein the adhesive tape consists essentially of a first tape strip which can be removed through said first opening strip and a second tape strip which can be removed through said second opening strip.